

THE PAIA DEPOT DESTROYED BY FIRE.

Tons of Sugar and General Freight Destroyed.

HOW MAUI OBSERVED THE FOURTH.

BALL GIVEN AT THE WAILUKU COURT HOUSE.

Races Run at the Kahului Track Were Well up to the Standard—Good Amateur Sprinting.

(Staff Correspondence of The Republican.)

WAILUKU, Maui, July 6.—Between \$75,000 and \$80,000 worth of property went up in smoke in less than half an hour last Monday, when the Paia depot of the Kahului Railroad Company, together with its entire contents, was destroyed by fire.

The fire originated in a pile of about 75 tons of saltpetre, which was located 100 feet to windward of the depot. Gangs of men were busy removing the saltpetre at the time, and it is supposed that either a lighted match or ashes from one of their pipes ignited the pile. All that is certain is that the men had to jump for their lives, as in an incredibly short space of time the whole pile was an exploding mass of flames.

The molten fertilizer, like lava, ran over the country immediately in its vicinity and communicated the flames to a stack of over \$2,000 worth of lumber, a coal pile of about 1200 tons and finally to the depot proper, in which, besides a quantity of general freight, about 12,000 bags of sugar from both Paia and Haiku plantations were stored. So rapid was the spread of the fire that the depot agent had barely time to save his cash and a few books and records before the entire building was ablaze from end to end.

When it became apparent that the saltpetre could not be extinguished and that the property in the neighborhood was threatened, a telephone message was dispatched to the Kahului office and a request for assistance made. In just six minutes from the receipt of this message, a train carrying about eighty men equipped with buckets, shovels, etc., and reinforced with two large truckloads of water, all under charge of Superintendent Filler, drove out from Kahului.

Excellent time was made to Paia, but upon arrival there, it was seen that the entire property was doomed, and strenuous efforts were directed toward saving the coal pile. This work proved no light matter, as the melted fertilizer had crept beneath it and fired the whole pile. A trench was cut through it, however, and by this means the danger of wholesale destruction was considerably lessened.

Crowds of willing helpers and curious sightseers collected from all points of the compass until all of 300 persons were present. Their best efforts were, however, unavailing, as the absence of sufficient water and the intense heat of the fire made it a matter of impossibility.

The outbreak was first noticed at about 1:05 p. m., and in less than half an hour all was over but clearing away the debris.

Eleven cars belonging to the railroad company and a number of cars belonging to the plantations were destroyed, as also was a small house situated about 500 feet down the hill and toward the sea.

The fire presented many curious features. The molten nitrates, as it ran over the country, resembled a small lava flow, only it was more destructive, and the immense quantities of molasses from the burning sugar covered everything with a thick coating.

The damage is estimated between \$75,000 and \$80,000, the principal part of which is, of course, the sugar, which is fully insured. The depot and contents are also partly insured, but the loss will be quite a sum.

WAILUKU, Maui, July 6.—The glorious Fourth was celebrated in the usual manner by Mauians. On the evening of July 3 a dance was given by the "boys" of Wailuku at the courthouse. About twenty-five couples found space upon the floor for the exercise of their abilities in the terpsichorean art, and all voted the affair a big success. A special train left Spreckelsville at 7:30 p. m., conveying passengers to the dance, and returned at about 2 o'clock in the morning with a load of tired-out, but well-satisfied, people.

The races formed the only diversion on the Fourth. A very fair attendance was registered at the Kahului race-track, and the races were well up to the standard.

The opening number was a one-mile bicycle race, which was taken by Nigel Jackson in the very fair time of 3:06. The Kula purse was carried by Sun of a Gun in 0:58 1-5. The Kihel purse was annexed by Mary Mac in 2:51 2-5.

Admiral Dewey ran away with the Spreckelsville purse in 1:25 2-5. Maude showed her nose under the judges' box first in the Waikapu purse in 0:26 4-5.

Jerry did the same in the Kahului purse in 2:05 1-5. Admiral Dewey, with Walter Lowrie up, headed off all opposition in the Couthian race and won in 2:16 4-5. Kickapoo annexed the mule race in 2:35 2-5.

Sweetie showed herself too much for her opponents in the half-mile trot, though her time—2:02 and 1:55 4-5—for her two heats has been beaten by several Coast horses, at least such is the rumor.

Maude again corralled the half-mile dash, best two in three, against Miki O, showing a decided superiority. The 160 yards running race was a surprise so far as time went, Plum Kit winning in the excellent time of 0:11 1-5.

CAPTURED BY TEACHERS.

Given a Farewell Before Starting for the United States.

HAVANA, June 25.—Havana has been practically given over today to the teachers chosen to attend the summer school in Boston and to their friends. The United States transport Sedgwick took 310 women teachers and the United States transport Crook 350 men. The Sedgwick will call at Matanzas, Cardenas and Segua, the Crook touching only at Matanzas. Bands and special tags were chartered for the early morning, but it was soon learned that no one would be allowed to go on board the transport before 3 o'clock in the afternoon. The crowds, therefore, visited the city, exploring in all directions, especially among the public buildings. It was estimated that fully 3000 residents and friends devoted the day to saying farewell.

The fortunate teachers seem to be in excellent spirits and to be anticipating with keen pleasure a residence of three months in the United States. The Crook left about 5 o'clock and the Sedgwick much later.

JUDGE HUMPHREYS FIRST CASE

WAS HEARD YESTERDAY MORNING BY THE JURIST.

A Knotty Point of Law Regarding Affinity Decided—Jurisdiction in the Action Also Questioned.

First Circuit Judge Humphreys occupied the bench for the first time yesterday morning, and an intricate point of law was sprung on his Honor.

The action was the old case of Thomas Milner Harrison vs. J. A. Magoon et al. The defense attacked the jurisdiction of the court, contending that, inasmuch as the plaintiff, as set forth in his declaration, was a foreigner by birth and not a resident of Hawaii, the case should be heard by the United States District Court.

Judge Humphreys, on taking the bench, called attention to the fact that Mr. Magoon, one of the defendants in the action, and himself had married sisters. The Constitution of Hawaii read:

"No person shall sit as a judge or juror in any case in which his relation by affinity or by consanguinity within the third degree, is interested, or in the issue, of which the said judge or juror may have, either directly or through such relation any pecuniary interest."

After hearing arguments on the question in which the ties of affinity and consanguinity were well threshed out, Judge Humphreys, in a clear and terse decision, held that he was not disqualified from sitting on the case. While it was true that Mr. Magoon and he had married sisters, their relation was one of affinity by affinity by affinity, and consequently he was not disqualified from sitting on the case.

Judge Humphreys overruled the plea of want of jurisdiction and gave the defendants twenty-four hours in which to demur or answer.

LANSING ON THE DEMENT LICENSE.

Declares That Private Interests Will Not Influence His Public Actions.

"I am surprised that any editor of a newspaper in Honolulu should comment on an interview and pass judgment on it without first seeing the party attacked in the interview."

Thus spoke Territorial Treasurer Lansing last night to a Republican reporter in answer to the question if he had anything to say in reference to the fact that he was a member of the liquor firm of W. C. Peacock & Co., as published exclusively in yesterday morning's Republican.

"My financial and business interests will never influence me in the discharge of my duties as a public officer," continued Mr. Lansing. "I may commit errors of judgment, but they will not be owing to my financial interests."

The case has been presented to The Republican, and the editor has passed judgment upon it, and I don't care to reopen the case at all. There were some statements of facts in the article."

Mr. Lansing was asked to state what these facts were, but declined to answer. He was informed that the columns of The Republican were open to him for anything that he might wish to say. He answered that he did not care to discuss the case.

LOCAL SPORTS WERE HIT HARD AT HILO.

Boys Return with Depleted or Empty Pocketbooks.

THEY PLAYED THE WRONG HORSES.

SOMETHING ABOUT A BRIDGE THAT IS MUCH TOO NARROW.

How the Plantations are Encroaching on the Town—A Suggestion to the Assessor.

J. S. Martin was among the passengers from Hilo on the Kinan.

"There was a big celebration of the Fourth at Hilo," said Mr. Martin to a Republican reporter last night. "The plantation managers and their leading assistants turned out and big crowds came on the steamers. Hilo's accommodations were taxed to the utmost. We were compelled to sleep on board or on the boat."

"There were two days of racing. The first day the events were slow, and there were long waits between the attractions. On the second day things went better."

The track is a half mile and the grand stand is one of the finest that I have ever seen. From the stand you can see all points of the course. Under the grand stand there is an opera house and under it a lunch room. The grand stand will seat, I should judge, from 1000 to 1100. It is a source of regret to me that the architect who designed the Hilo grand stand did not design the Honolulu grand stand. The track, horsemen tell me, is fast.

"Now, I am going to tell you something of interest. The Honolulu sports were taken into camp by those of Hilo. On the boat going to Hilo there was much vain boasting among our boys as how they would do those of the rainy city. One boastful chap, in striped shirt, loudly and frequently asserted that he would wipe the earth, figuratively, with the sports of Hilo. Well, to make a long story short, the Honolulu turf element was sucked dry. Many of them had to borrow money to return home. Say, those Hilo fellows are on to the going qualities of a horse and seem familiar with how jockeys should be handled. There are a number of Little Pies among them."

"The hack charges of Hilo are excessive. For instance, three or four persons engage a hack, paying a dollar. They are taken to their destination. The hackmen charges them half a dollar apiece for his return with the empty vehicle."

"The building of the new iron bridge across Waialakea river was a piece of short-sighted policy. The bridge hasn't been thrown open to the public yet. The structure rests on heavy abutments of stone and apparently is substantially built. The bridge is only sixteen feet wide. This driveway will not permit two heavy trucks to pass each other. All the trucking from town to the wharf will be done over the bridge. The matter should be called to the attention of the Superintendent of Public Works, together with the widening of the School-street bridge in this city."

"The roads at Hilo are excellent, but the people of the town can't be congratulated on their sidewalks. They are extremely primitive. Their roads could be improved by employing more street-sprinkling carts."

"With the large water power going to waste at Hilo, I think some of it might be utilized as power for an electric railway through and about the town. Hilo is laid out in the form of a semi-circle, mauka around Front street. The sugar plantations encroach on the town. I would suggest that the Hilo assessor do his duty and assess the plantations in proximity to the town as residence property."

"On the whole, I had a pleasant time at Hilo."

THE MICROSCOPICAL SOCIETY MEETS.

Dr. Sloggett Reads Paper on Bacteriology and Mr. Shorey Exhibits New Microscope.

The Microscopical society held its regular meeting last night in Dr. Sloggett's offices in Progress Block. There was a fair attendance of members present and the meeting was interesting and instructive.

Mr. Edmund C. Shorey, commissioner of foods, exhibited a new Spencer microscope. Stated and lenses which were very much admired by those present. Messrs Shorey and Johnston were appointed a committee to examine and report in detail on the stand and lenses at the next meeting.

The society elected Mr. Charles P. Grimwood to a membership after which

Dr. Sloggett read a paper on bacteriology in which he went over briefly the development of the science, the improvements of methods, and the relation of bacteriology to medicine and its allied sciences. A vote of thanks was given Dr. Sloggett for his valuable essay.

The secretary announced that Dr. Sloggett had consented to read a paper at the next meeting on the prevalence of influenza and is gripe in Honolulu.

Band Concert.

The Hawaiian band will give the usual concert at Makee Island this afternoon with the following program:

PART I.
"Old Hundred."
Overture—"Peter Schmitt."
Patriotic—"The Morning."
Romance—"Rabel."
Reveries—"Dulce."
PART II.
Grand Selection—"March Visconti."
Reveries—"Dulce."
Patriotic—"The Morning."
Romance—"Rabel."
Reveries—"Dulce."

ORDER AFFECTING HAWAII.

How Registered Letters and Parcels Must be Waybilled.

WASHINGTON, June 27.—The Post-office Department has issued the following order relating to registered mail for Hawaii and Porto Rico: "Hereafter all postmasters in the United States will see that registered letters or parcels originating at their offices and addressed to postoffices in the Territory of Hawaii or Porto Rico are billed on domestic forms and are placed in domestic registered package envelopes addressed to the Hawaiian or Porto Rico Postoffice for which they are intended, instead of being sent, as heretofore, in registered package envelopes addressed to United States offices exchanging registered mail with those places."

The order enumerates thirty-four postoffices in the island of Hawaii, twenty-four in Maui, eleven in Kauai, eight in Oahu, five in Molokai and two in Lanai.

BRIEF IN THE EDWARDS CASE.

INTRICATE LEGAL POINTS FOR THE SUPREME COURT.

Contention that the Defendant Should Have Been Indicted by the Grand Jury.

Tomorrow morning at 10 o'clock is the hour set by the Supreme Court to hear the writ of error in the case of the Republic of Hawaii vs. George L. Edwards.

Edwards was convicted of an unnatural crime without the presentation or indictment of a grand jury, which his attorney, George A. Davis, contends is contrary to the provisions of Article 5 of the Constitution which reads:

"No person shall be held to answer for a capital or otherwise infamous crime, unless on a presentment or indictment of a grand jury."

By the terms of the joint resolution of Congress, annexing the islands to the United States, the brief states that Hawaii became a part of the United States and subject to the sovereign dominion thereof. By the terms of the resolution the municipal laws of Hawaii not inconsistent with the joint resolution nor contrary to the Constitution of the United States are continued in force until Congress shall otherwise determine.

By the terms of the resolution the courts of these islands are United States courts; they are not territorial courts; they are not state courts; they are not the courts of a foreign country in the contention of the brief.

The laws of Hawaii must not conflict with the Constitution of the United States. It is contended that Edwards, a citizen of the United States, was not tried upon an information, but upon an indictment presented by the Attorney General and a true bill found by a judge of a circuit court, that the Supreme Court of the United States would not uphold such a proceeding.

It is claimed that Edwards is deprived of his liberty without due process of law.

The case Edwards was tried and convicted, says the brief, the circuit court and the judge were exercising their judicial functions under the authority of the United States, as provided by the joint resolution.

The defendant was convicted by ten jurors, two dissenting. Numerous authorities are cited to show that this is in direct violation of the Constitution of the United States.

The writ of error deals exhaustively with the testimony given at the trial.

REPRESENTS THE EMPEROR.

Captain Platt, an Agent of Deception.

Monarch, to Ask for Intercession.

LEFT 'FRISCO IN GOOD SHAPE.

But Hawaiians were in Company With a California Crowd.

AND THE ICE WAS MELTING FAST.

THE HAWAIIAN DELEGATION SOLID FOR BRYAN AND AGAINST TRUSTS.

Honolulu Folks and What They are Doing—Dillingham Has a New Deal on Hand.

(Staff Correspondence of The Republican.)

SAN FRANCISCO, June 30.—The Hawaiian delegation to the Democratic National Convention left for Kansas City yesterday morning at 10 o'clock, and to quiet any apprehensions, your correspondent will state that the members were sedate, steady and clear-headed when they left this city, but he has his fears. They marched from the Palace down to the headquarters of the Iroquois Club, where they were joined by the California delegation and, with their banners side by side and headed by a band, the two delegations marched down Market street to the ferry, then across to the Oakland mole, where they took the train for the East.

Those California fellows are the very dense to advertise their State, and in the baggage car were numerous cases of "products," and before they left the pier there were signs that the ice was melting, so of course consumption must be rapid to prevent loss. Hence the fear. But it was a jolly crowd, with a special car all decorated and bannering as "California and Hawaii."

Of course, Bryan will be nominated, and it is a pretty safe proposition that the Chicago platform will be swallowed as a whole, including the "16 to 1" plank, but it is alleged that Mr. Bryan is not quite so "set" on that plank as he was. The great cards will be anti-trusts, anti-imperialism, and, in fact, everything that is anti-Republican. Reminds one of the Irish immigrant applying for naturalization papers. He was asked: "What is our form of government?" and replied: "The United States." "Of course, but what ever it is, O'm agin it."

The Vice-Presidency is as yet in the air, but there are any number of lightening rods, and there is destined to be a big field of "also rans." Among these mentioned prominently are W. R. Hearst of California and New York, General Fitzhugh Lee of Virginia, Sulzer of New York, Benjamin F. Shively of Indiana, Charles A. Towne of Minnesota, A. B. Parker of New York and some have even gone so far as to suggest Morgan of Alabama, and "I am a Democrat," D. B. Hill, but it is not at all probable that either of the two will act as a tail to the young Nebraskan's kite.

There is more or less harmony prevailing now in the ranks of the Democracy, and it is quite possible that Bourke Cockran of New York will make the speech nominating Bryan. There was quite a stir around the incubator that contained the Vice-Presidential boom of Mayor Van Wyck of New York, but one of the party organs began smothering at the hole concealing the ice trust, and one of the very first to tumble out was the ancient and honorable Mayor followed by a lot of Tammanyites. Now the Mayor is not considered available.

The Republican delegation to the national convention is still in the East and having a good time. The last heard of them was at a fete at Chamberlin's in Washington, where Colonel Sam Parker entertained statesmen and diplomats in a manner that established the reputation of Hawaiians as hosts.

The war in South Africa has been almost forgotten in the greater world-wide crisis in China. The Sixth Cavalry is here to embark for the seat of the trouble, and a brigade will be sent from the Philippines. General Adna R. Chaffee will sail at once to take command. President McKinley has under consideration the calling of an extra session of Congress and a call for volunteers. Nothing has been heard from the foreign legations at Peking for sixteen days. Admiral Seymour of the British navy, marching to their relief with a mixed column of British, American, Russian, French, German and Japanese troops, 2000 in all, was hemmed in ten miles out from Tien-Tsin, and after losing 37 killed and 200 wounded, was rescued and escorted back to Tien-Tsin just in time to prevent his entire force from being captured or massacred. The situation is very grave, and unless China promptly disavows the acts of the Boxers and takes drastic measures to prove it, the result will be Asia against the world, and the greatest war in history.

Mr. and Mrs. John Ena and their daughters have gone to Long Beach, on the coast of Los Angeles county, for the summer months. They will return at the beginning of the school year at the Dominican College in San Rafael, where the Misses Ena are finishing their education.

F. W. Macfarlane and wife are still at the California. Their son, Walter, accompanied his uncle, Colonel Macfarlane, to the islands. H. A. Wisemann of the Spreckels company has also gone to the islands for a month's vacation.

It is reported about the Hawaiian colony here that Dr. and Mrs. Walters have returned to the islands to remain permanently.

This is heard with pleasure by those who expect to return shortly, and with regret by those whose stay here is indefinite.

Robert Lewers has been back in the country at Skaggs Springs for some time.

Mr. and Mrs. Francis Gay have temporarily left their quarters in the Occidental and are passing a few weeks at Grafton Springs in Yolo county.

A. R. Bindt is married. He slipped away from the Occidental a few days ago and the first the bachelor colony knew of his whereabouts the act had been consummated. "They will not do a thing to him" when he returns. Mr. and Mrs. Bindt will sail for the islands soon the barkentine S. N. Castle.

B. F. Dillingham is still at the Occidental waiting to hear from Lonin Thurston, who returned to the islands to look after that end of some big deal they have under consideration.

In common with all other mixologists in the United States, your compounders of the seductive cocktails must "watch out" for the internal revenue man. A Federal collector has just decided that all mixers of liquors are rectifiers under the meaning of the statute made and provided and that all retailers come under that head. Under that decision the retailer of mixed liquors must pay an annual license of \$100 a year.

E. E. B.

Germany's Preparations.

BERLIN, June 29.—It is evident that the German Government expects the disturbances in China to last for a long time, inasmuch as all volunteers joining the naval battalions for China have been pledged for service until the autumn of 1901. The expedition will take 2290 tents, each to serve for two men.

Charters Approved.

The charters granted to the First American bank, Hilo Railway Company, Kohala and Hilo Railway Company and the Honolulu Rapid Transit Company have been approved by President McKinley.

THE STEAMER DORIC IS FINED.

SENATOR BALDWIN THE CAUSE OF THE COLLECTORS ACTION.

He Bought a Ticket for the Orient—Treasury Agent Thought It Was to Evade the Law.

The steamer Doric was the first to feel the effect of the new navigation law. H. P. Baldwin bought a ticket for Hongkong in San Francisco. On arriving here Senator Baldwin took advantage of the stopover privilege, covering a period between the arrival of one and the departure from here of the next steamer of the same company. He being a resident of the islands, the United States Treasury agents became suspicious that the ticket had been bought to Hongkong in order that Mr. Baldwin might evade the law.

Sensor Baldwin was called upon and asked if he intended to continue on to be present in the time allowed by the ticket. He replied that he probably would go to China in the springing. In this statement the Collector of Customs fined the steamer \$300 for the breaking of the law.

Under the regulation, no liability attaches to the passenger, the steamer only being held responsible.

The Toyo Kisen Kaisha, Nippon Marine was in trouble in San Francisco on the same point that caused the Doric to be fined here. The Nippon carried a man and his wife from here.

TO NOTIFY ROOSEVELT.

Committee to Tell Him of His Nomination July Twelfth.

WASHINGTON, June 29.—Senator Walcott, who was a caller at the White house to-day, said that he had just received news from the National Republican Committee of his appointment as chairman of the committee to inform Governor Roosevelt of his nomination as Vice President. He said he would be at the Waldorf-Astoria, in New York, on the 12th inst., and he desired to meet the other members of the notification committee at 10 o'clock on the morning of the 12th the committee will proceed to Byster Bay, where the formal notification to the Vice-President candidate will take place.

COAL FOR THE WAR SHIPS.

Navy Department Prepared for the Crisis in the Orient.

WASHINGTON, June 29.—A sign of the preparedness of the navy for any emergency that may arise in the East is exhibited in the alacrity with which Admiral Bradford, chief of the Equipment Bureau, has taken steps to maintain an ample supply of coal in readiness at convenient points for naval use. Almost before there were any general misgivings as to the result of the Boxer movement in China the Equipment Bureau was looking over the coaltiers purchased in the Spanish-American war and since lying out of commission at the navy yards, with a view to loading them up at once for foreign service. Steps have been taken to anticipate the arrival of these ships in Chinese waters by diverting nearer cargoes of coal to Admiral Remey's support.

The Navy Department to-day received news of the arrival at Singapore of the Ataka, with 6000 tons aboard. She is from Norfolk for Manila and put into Singapore for orders. She will probably be diverted to Taku, carrying her cargo to Admiral Remey.

Needed a Light.

"What did the census man ask you, Larkin?" said Bunting.

"He asked me if I had a match about my clothes."—Detroit Free Press.

THE SUPREME COURT MEETS A PUZZLER.

Is Captain William Smith a Resident of Hawaii?

THAT IS THE LEADING QUESTION.

NATURALIZATION OF SEVERAL MORE CITIZENSHIP CANDIDATES.

Views of New Citizens Regarding Attorney General Dole's Opinion—It is Classed as Baby Food.

The work of naturalizing candidates for citizenship continues to engage the attention of the Supreme Court. Yesterday quite a batch of candidates forewore allegiance to the land of their birth. All the justices were on the bench.

The case of Captain William Smith of the ship Mauna Ala occupied much of the attention of the court, and evidently proved a difficult problem to solve, as the matter was taken under advisement.

In 1890 Captain Smith came to Honolulu in his vessel. His family at the time resided in Australia on premises owned by the captain. Captain Smith registered his vessel under the shipping laws of Hawaii, she flying the Hawaiian flag. In 1893 Mrs. Smith died, and his three children continued to reside in Australia with their grandmother. Captain Smith is a native of Scotland.

Chief Justice Frear asked the captain what place he now considered his residence.

"On my vessel," replied the captain. "I am half owner of her."

The captain modified this statement by saying that, notwithstanding that his children resided in Australia, he considered Honolulu to be his home port. He looked upon Honolulu as his home.

Captain Smith's attorney contended that the captain was a resident of Honolulu and had been for the last five years past.

It is expected that the court will render a decision in the case to-morrow morning, when it convenes at 10 o'clock.

The following candidates were naturalized: J. J. Macdonald, James D. Oregian, Henry Davis, Thomas E. Krouse, Charles M. V. Forster, A. L. Thompson, James Steiner, A. B. Srimour and J. R. Macaulay.

There is much adverse comment among the newly naturalized citizens over the decision rendered by Attorney-General Dole that none of those naturalized is entitled to vote until he has resided in the Territory one year after he has taken out his final papers.

Daniel Logan, recently naturalized, in speaking about the Attorney-General's decision, said: "The decision is based on a technicality and is open to discussion. I can't very well see how a citizen can go back on the returns. If a citizen says that he has been naturalized and has resided in the country one year, I don't see how he can be deprived of his vote."

"Then again a man's intentions should be considered. Had the English and German residents of these islands opposed annexation, it would have been much more difficult to accomplish than it was. Now, these English and German residents, by their actions, clearly showed that they were in sympathy with American institutions and that ultimately they intended becoming citizens of the United States. In my judgment, right here they filed their true intentions."

"I claim that I am a full-fledged American citizen and have a right to vote at the coming election and hold office under the government. Please understand, however, that I am not seeking office."

"I am an officeholder under the present government," said